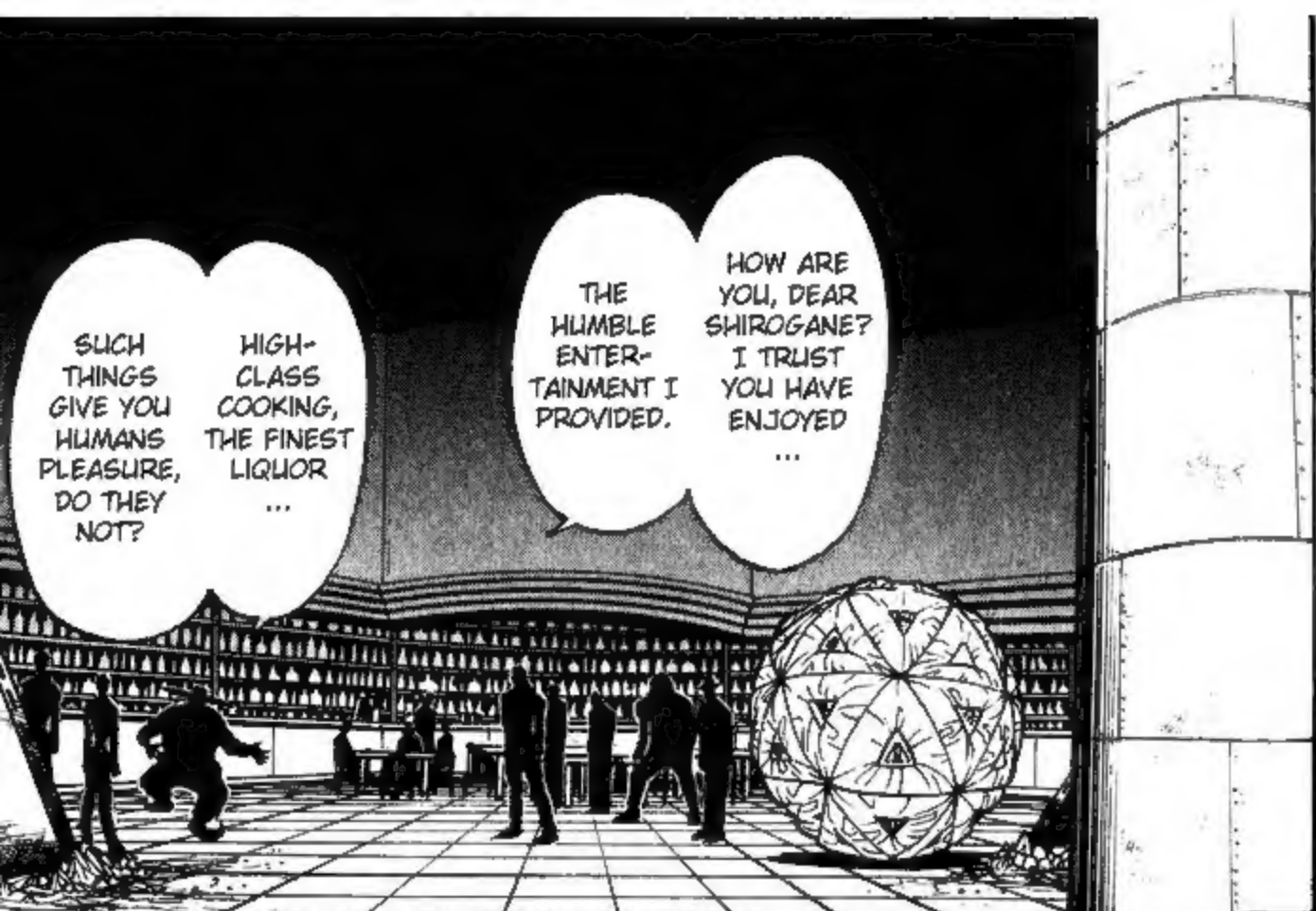
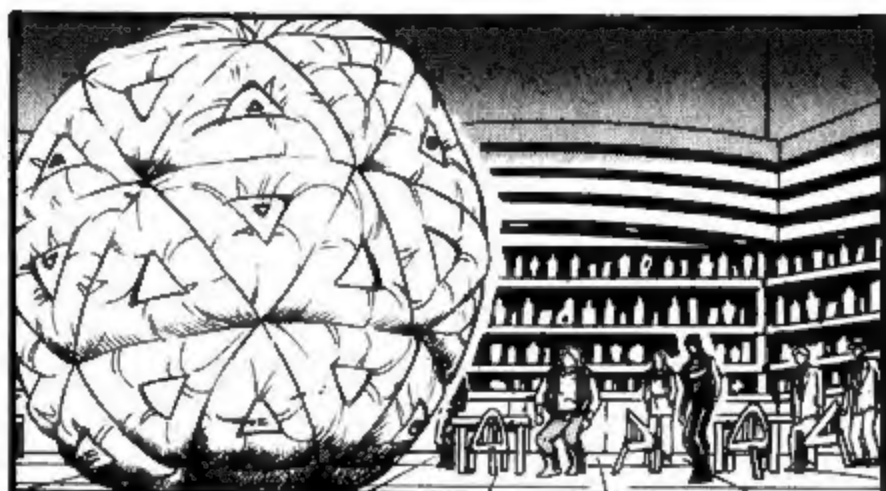




Act 19

The Red Sand Dune







IS
VICTORY
GOING
TO BE
OURS?

JUST
HOW
...



THERE
HASN'T BEEN
ANY TIME TO
ASK UNTIL
NOW. JUST
WHAT IS
GOING TO
HAPPEN AT
MIDNIGHT?

FATIMA,
YOU
MUST
KNOW,
RIGHT?



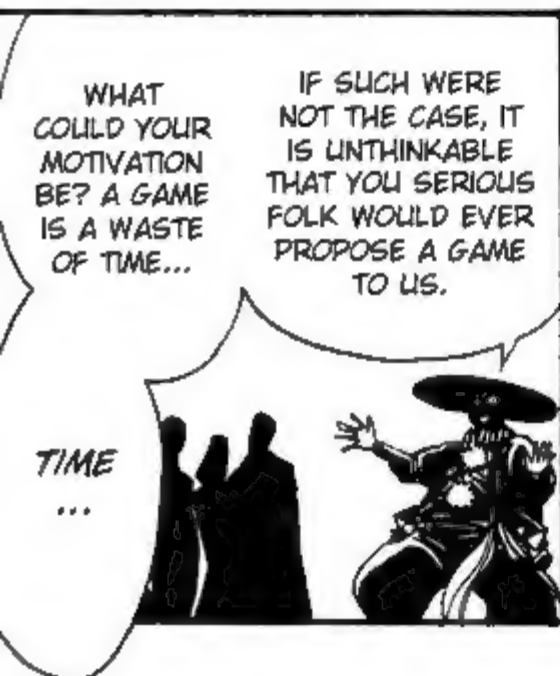
A
SPECIAL
KIND OF
RAIN WILL
DESCEND
UPON THIS
LAND.

AT
MID-
NIGHT
...



RAIN
...?

3



WHAT
COULD YOUR
MOTIVATION
BE? A GAME
IS A WASTE
OF TIME...

IF SUCH WERE
NOT THE CASE, IT
IS UNTHINKABLE
THAT YOU SERIOUS
FOLK WOULD EVER
PROPOSE A GAME
TO US.

TIME
...



ARE
KEEPING
SOMETHING
FROM US,
ARE YOU
NOT?

YOU
SHIRO-
GANE
...



AT
THIS TENT
CONTAINING
OUR LOVELY
MIDNIGHT
CIRCUS?

COULD IT,
BY CHANCE,
BE THAT YOU
INTEND TO
FIRE SOME
KIND OF
MISSILE
...



A...
MISSILE
...?



OHO,
YOU'VE
BECOME
QUITE THE
SMOOTH
TALKER
NOW, EH,
FACELESS?

DO
YOU REALLY
THINK THAT
NOW, AT THIS
LATE HOUR,
WE WOULD
RELY UPON
TACTICS THAT
HAVE FAILED
US IN THE
PAST?

DOTTORE
...

DOTTORE
...



WH-
WHAT'S
GOIN' ON?
THIS SILVER
CLOUD...

5

THREE OF
THOSE TIMES,
YOU USED
THERMONUCLEAR
WEAPONS. THE
TITAN I ROCKET
NEAR THE END
OF THE '50S,
THE MINUTEMAN
IN 1962... AND
THEN IN 1988,
THE ICBM
PEACEMAKER.

ON
SEVERAL
OCCASIONS
IN THE PAST,
YOU HAVE
DISCOVERED
OUR TENT'S
LOCATION BY
SHEER GOOD
FORTUNE.

BUT
EACH
TIME IT
ENDED IN
FAILURE.

IT LOOKS
LIKE SMOKE,
BUT IT IS
ACTUALLY
MADE UP OF
INSECT-TYPE
AUTOMATA
...

WHAT
IS THIS
STUFF
?!

THIS IS
A SILVER
SMOKE
CREATED
BY THE
AUTOMATA!

AS
SOON
AS WE
ENTERED IT,
THE COPTER
GOT ALL
SCREWED
UP!

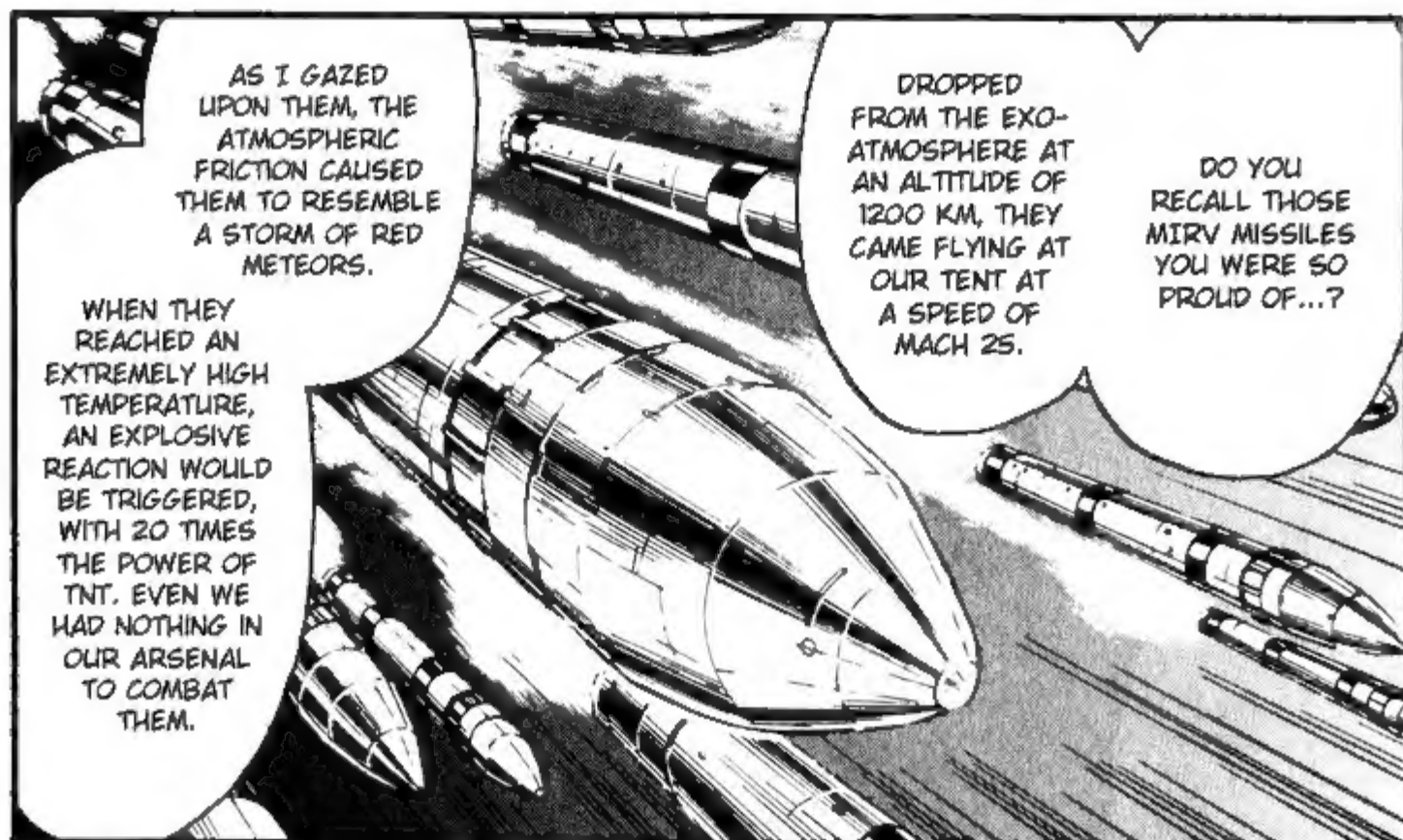




WHEN
THEY ENTER
THE HUMAN
BODY, THEY
INTERFERE WITH
THE NERVOUS
SYSTEM AND
CAUSE THE ONSET
OF ZONAPHA
SYNDROME!

IF THEY
ATTACH
THEM-
SELVES TO
MACHINERY,
THEY CAN
ENTER
...

THROUGH
ANY KIND
OF TINY
OPENING,
AND CAUSE
SERIOUS
DAMAGE!



AS I GAZED
UPON THEM, THE
ATMOSPHERIC
FRICTION CAUSED
THEM TO RESEMBLE
A STORM OF RED
METEORS.

WHEN THEY
REACHED AN
EXTREMELY HIGH
TEMPERATURE,
AN EXPLOSIVE
REACTION WOULD
BE TRIGGERED,
WITH 20 TIMES
THE POWER OF
TNT. EVEN WE
HAD NOTHING IN
OUR ARSENAL
TO COMBAT
THEM.

DROPPED
FROM THE EXO-
ATMOSPHERE AT
AN ALTITUDE OF
1200 KM, THEY
CAME FLYING AT
OUR TENT AT
A SPEED OF
MACH 25.

DO YOU
RECALL THOSE
MIRV MISSILES
YOU WERE SO
PROUD OF...?



FUHAHAHA...!
WE KEPT
PUMPING
OUR SILVER
SMOKE UP
INTO THE
SKY!

HOW-
EVER
...!



EXACTLY
THE
ALTITUDE
OF THE
EARTH'S
ATMOS-
PHERE!

AT A
PERIMETER
OF 1000
KILOME-
TERS.



IT
COVERED
OUR TENT
AS IT ROSE,
FLOATING
AROUND
US...



AND
THEN
...



THEIR
ETA TO
OUR TENT
ON THE
GROUND
WAS JUST
OVER A
MINUTE.

THE
MISSILES
ON THEIR
WAY TO
ELIMINATE
US PASSED
RIGHT
THROUGH
IT.



キキキ



GET
A HOLD OF
YOURSELVES!
YOU'VE
CONTRACTED
ZONAPHA
SYNDROME
...?
TCH, THIS
IS WHY
NORMAL
HUMANS
CAN'T...!

HHI
...
HHI
...
HHI
...!



GEORGE...
EVACUATE
THE...
GHUH!!

IT'S NO
USE...
CON-
TROLS
WON'T
WORK
...



YOU'VE
COME
DOWN WITH
IT AS WELL,
ASHIHANA?

GHFFH
...!

CAN'T...
BREATHE...
ALL OF A
SUDDEN...

WH-
WHAT'S
GOIN' ON...



DAMMIT...!
I DON'T
WANNA DIE
HERE!!

HHI... OUR
ALTITUDE IS
DROPPING...
HHI...
ALTITUDE
...



WHAT YA
SAID JUST
NOW...
WAS THAT
FOR REAL
...?

THIS IS...
ZONAPHA
SYNDROME
...?



THE
MISSILES
TURNED
OFF-COURSE,
AND THEY
CRASHED,
ONE AND
ALL.



IS
THAT
SO
...?

THAT
IS WHY
WE HAVE
NO SUCH
PLAN THIS
TIME.

WE ARE
AWARE OF
THAT AS
WELL.



IT WOULDN'T,
PERCHANCE,
HAPPEN TO BE
THAT YOU HAVE
FOUND A WAY
TO CIRCUMVENT
OUR SILVER
SMOKE...?



HOWEVER,
HUMANS
HAVE
FOUND
A WAY
...



UNTIL NOW,
THE RAIN WAS
UNABLE TO
REACH OUR
ENEMIES.
THEY WERE
PROTECTED
FROM IT
BY THICK
CLOUDS.

FATIMA,
WHAT
WAS
THAT
ABOUT
RAIN?

IT
IS TIME
FOR US
TO COME
OUT.



TO
ATTACK
US IN
WAVES,
USING
A NEW
TYPE OF
MISSILE,
HMMM?



YOU
MIGHT BE
WAITING
FOR A
CERTAIN
HOUR TO
COME?

PER-
HAPS
...

10



THAT IS
WHY WE
ENGAGED
YOU IN THIS
GAME.

LUU-
CIILLE,
FAAACE-
LEEES.

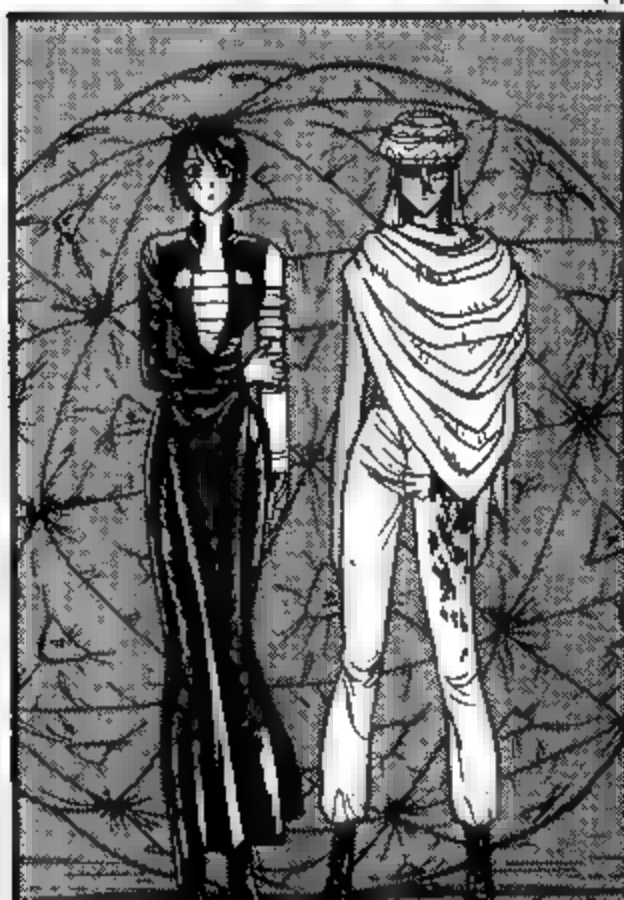
WE HAD
FORESEEN
THAT SUCH
MIGHT BE
YOUR
PLAAAN
...!



FUFUFU
...!
STRUCK
DUMB,
ARE
YOU?



THAT'S RIGHT,
WE'VE DISCOVERED
THAT YOU'RE JUST
STALLING FOR TIME.
SO WE NO LONGER
EVEN NEED TO
ESCAPE.





THIS
SILENCE,
AT THE
MOMENT
YOU HAVE
LEARNED
OF YOUR
DEFEAT
...!

THAT'S IT!
THAT SILENCE
OF YOURS...
THAT IS THE
ULTIMATE
PLEASURE
FOR ME!

FUHA
HAHAHA
HAHA
...!

12



HOW
DID
THESE
GLYS
KNOW
ABOUT
IT...?

HOW
...





...
YEAH.

LOOKS
THAT
WAY...
BUT THIS
DOESN'T
CHANGE
WHAT
WE'RE
HERE
TO DO.



MING-
XIA...
YOU'RE
FEELING
BETTER?

SO
THIS
PLAN
ISN'T
GONNA
WORK
ANY-
MORE?



IT'S
TIME
FOR
PLAN
D.

YES
...



GRR-

LU-
CILE
...

WE'RE
OUT OF
EXCUSES
...

THIS
PLACE
...

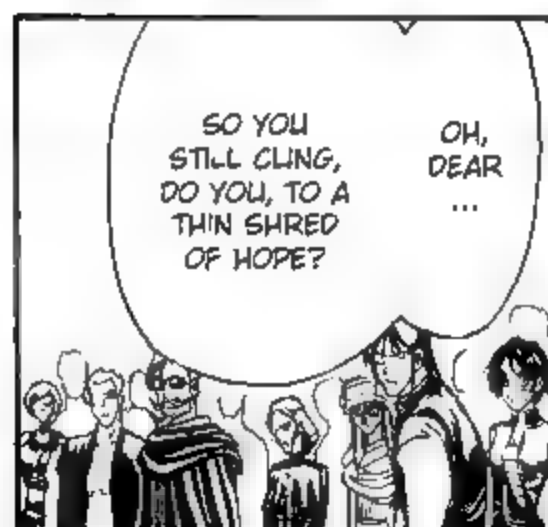
13

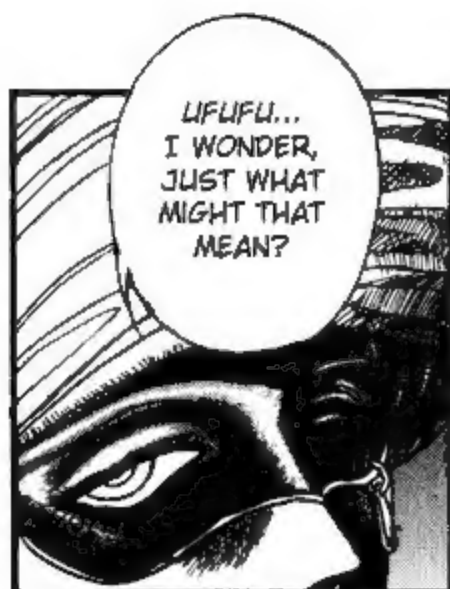


AND
DESTROY
THE
SYMBOL
OF THE
MIDNIGHT
CIRCUS,
THE DOLL
THAT
LEADS
THEM...

WITH-
OUT
FAIL.

HAVE
ALL THE
SHIROGANE
OUTSIDE
STORM THE
TENT...

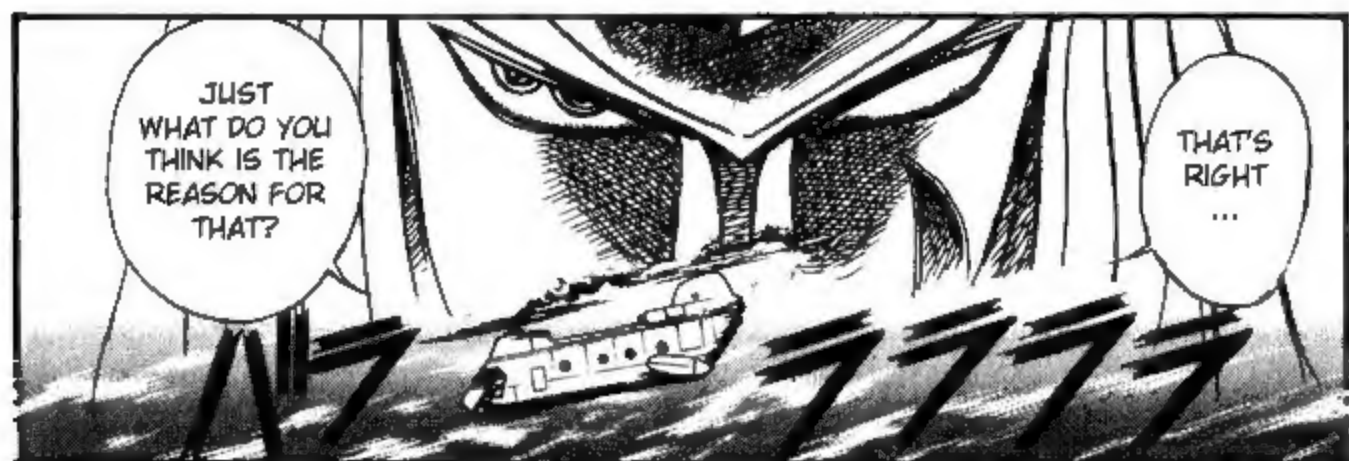




LIFUFLU...
I WONDER,
JUST WHAT
MIGHT THAT
MEAN?



HAVE YOU
FAILED TO NOTICE
THAT THERE HAS
BEEN NO CONTACT
WHATSOEVER FROM
YOUR COMRADES
OUTSIDE?



JUST
WHAT DO YOU
THINK IS THE
REASON FOR
THAT?

THAT'S
RIGHT
...



...!
WHAT
...?
WHAT
IS...?!

KHH...
THEIR TENT
IS WITHIN
SIGHT.



HEY!
LET'S
REPAIR
THE HELI-
COPTER!



A
HILL...
OF RED
SAND
...?

hhi

THE
HELL...
IS THAT
...?



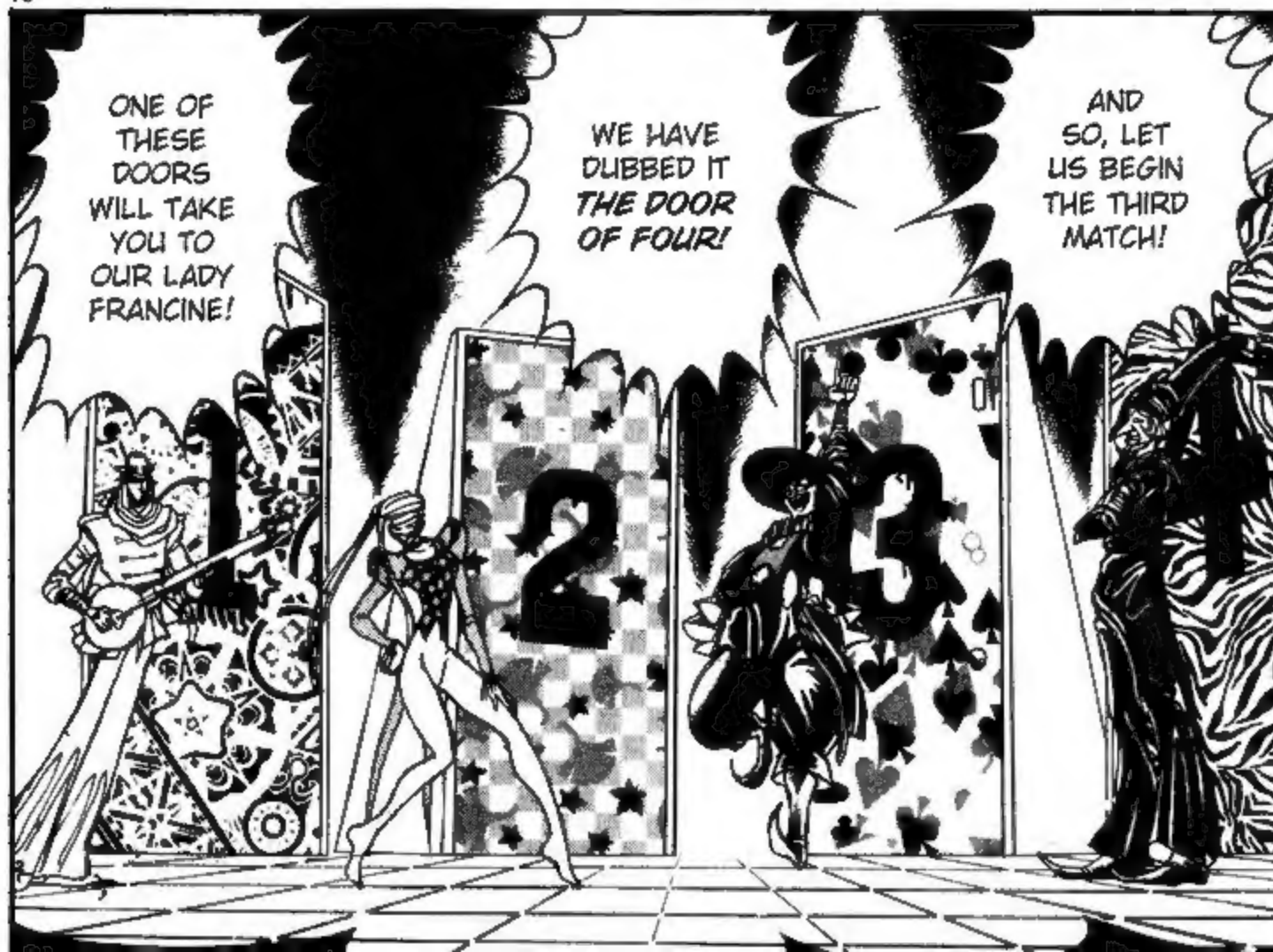
ARE WE
GOING TO
HIT THE
GROUND
?!

DAMN
...!





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translation by funnuraba.tumblr.com

These scanlations have been uploaded *only* to Batoto so that I can remove them if the series is ever licensed. Please read them there instead of on websites that rip them and watermark them to make a profit off your views!

Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves.